

**REMARKS**

This response is filed in response to the final Office Action dated January 3, 2008.

Claims 9-18 are pending. In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected pending claims 9-12, 14, and 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the original specification.

Claims 9 and 17 have been amended to address the Examiner's rejections.

Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification. There is a clear basis for the new language on page 10, lines 14-17 and on page 11, lines 1 and 2. No new matter has been added. Amendments to the claims are being made solely to expedite prosecution and do not constitute an acquiescence to any of the Examiner's rejections.

Applicants' silence with regard to the Examiner's rejections of the dependent claims constitutes recognition by the Applicants that the rejections are moot based on the Applicants' Amendment and Remarks relative to the independent claim from which the dependent claims depend. Applicants reserve the option to further prosecute the same or similar claims in the present or a subsequent Application.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable consideration and allowance of claims 9-12, 14, and 16-18 is respectfully requested. In the event that the application is not deemed in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned in an effort to advance prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



---

Robert L. Maier  
PTO Reg. No. 54,291  
(212) 408-2538

Paul A. Ragusa  
PTO Reg. No. 38,587  
(212) 408-2588

*Attorneys for Applicants*

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
30 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York, NY 10112